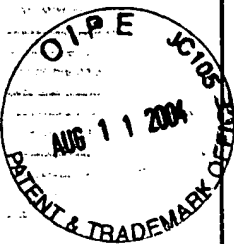


08-12-04

LFW

Application No. (if known): 10/672,024

Attorney Docket No.: 04637/0200019-US0



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. _____ in an envelope addressed to:

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Amendment to Office Action dated May 19, 2004 (8 pages);
Amendment Transmittal (1 page); and
Postcard.



AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER				Docket No. 04637/0200019-US0	
Application No. 10/672,024-Conf. #7702	Filing Date September 26, 2003	Examiner F. L. Lagman	Art Unit 3673		
Applicant(s): Michael E. Lopata					
Invention: APPARATUS FOR ESTABLISHING ADJUSTABLE DEPTH BED IN TRENCHES FOR UTILITY LINES AND ENCASING THE LINES					
TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
CLAIMS AS AMENDED					
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	
Total Claims	18	- 20 =		x	0.00
Independent Claims	1	- 3 =		x	0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					
Other fee (please specify):					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:					0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Entity					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <u>04-0100</u> as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.					
 S. Peter Ludwig Attorney Reg. No.: 25,351				Dated: <u>August 9, 2004</u>	
DARBY & DARBY P.C. P.O. Box 5257 New York, New York 10150-5257 (212) 527-7770					
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Dated: _____

Docket No.: 04637/0200019-US0
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Michael E. Lopata

Application No.: 10/672,024

Art Unit: 3673

Filed: September 26, 2003

Examiner: F. L. Lagman

For: APPARATUS FOR ESTABLISHING
ADJUSTABLE DEPTH BED IN TRENCHES
FOR UTILITY LINES AND ENCASING THE
LINES

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated May 19, 2004 (Paper No. 05142004), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.